

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 IGA-02 DODE-00 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 SS-15 PM-09 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

RSR-01 /084 W

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R 261006 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1037

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 3957

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, MASS, CS

SUBJ: COMMERCIAL SHIPPING RATES

REF: STATE 074930

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE INFORMATION REQUESTED REFTEL:

A. CURRENT AVERAGE RATE PER MT OR PER 40 CUBIC FEET SHIPPED VIA MEKONG FROM HONG KONG, OR SINGAPORE IS \$30-34 DEPENDING ON THE PRODUCT. THESE ARE MINIMUM RATES USUALLY CHARGED FOR TRANSHIPMENT ON THROUGH B/L. RATES FOR SHIPMENTS ORIGINATING IN HONG KONG, SINGAPORE OR TAIWAN ARE SOMETIMES HIGHER AS THEY ARE EKBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF BOTTOMS AND WILLINGNESS OF SHIP OWNERS TO GO. THE RATES FROM KOREA ARE ABOUT \$40 PER MT. IF A CARGO FROM KOREA SHOULD BE TRANSSHIPPED IN HONG KONG OR SINGAPORE THE RATE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLY HIGHER DUE TO THE ABOVE QUOTED CHARGE FROM KHONG KONG AND SINGAPORE TO PHNOM PENH ALONE. UNTIL NOW THE TANKERS HAVE NOT INCREASED THEIR RATES FOR POL PRODUCTS FROM NHABE, SINGAPORE AND BANGKOK BEYOND THOSE REPORTED AND APPROVED BY MARAD. HOWEVER, SOME OF THE TANKER OWNERS ARE PRESENTLY ASKING FOR AN INCREASE IN THE RATES AMOUNTING TO ABOUT 30 PERCENT. THE INCREASE APPEARS TO BE JUSTIFIED. AS PER AID/ W' S DECISION THEY HAVE BEEN PAID PER CUBIC METER PER VOYAGE. AS LONG AS THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE 3 VOYAGES PER MONTH, ON WHICH
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THE OLD RATES WERE BASED, THEY MANAGED A PROFIT. HOWEVER, IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS, DUE TO THE MILITARY SITUATION ON THE MEKONG, THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE ONLY TWO AND SOMETIMES ONLY ONE VOYAGE PER MONTH AND THEY ARE LOSING MONEY, AS TIMEWISE THEIR VESSELS ARE NOT FULLY UTILIZED.

B. BONUSES AMOUNT TO DOUBLE SALARY WHENEVER SHIP IS ATTACKED REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE VESSEL WAS HIT. THEY ARE PAID BY SHIP OWNERS OR SOMETIMES BY THE CHARTERERS, IF THE VESSEL INVOLVED IS UNDER CHARTER.

C. CONVOYS ARE ORGANIZED BY MNK CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS. PROTECTION OF CONVOYS IN VIETNAM UP TO THE KHMER BORDER IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF VIETNAMESE MILITARY.
SWANK

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NMAFVVZCZ

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